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The LORD BISHOP of St. DAVID's

SERMON

BEFORE

THE GOVERNORS OF

LINCOLN COUNTY-HOSPITAL

OCTOBER, 20th, 1777.

ORDERED,

THAT the Chairman and the Treasurer be requested to wait upon the Honourable and Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of St. David's with the Thanks of this Board for his Sermon preached at the Cathedral Church on the 19th Instant, for the Benefit of the Hospital; and to request the Favour of his Lordship to deliver a Copy thereof, in Order that the same may be printed.

By Order of the Board,

J. FORSTER, Secretary.

BRITISH MUSEUM

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A SERMON

PREACHED IN THE

Cathedral Church of *LINCOLN*,

ON OPENING

The New County-Infirmary,

Before the GOVERNORS.

And Published at their Request.

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By JAMES, Lord Bishop of St. David's,
and Dean of Lincoln Cathedral.

LINCOLN:
Printed and Sold by W. WOOD:

And Sold by Mr. Crowder, Bookseller, in Pater-noster-Row; Mr. White, in Fleet-street; and Mr. Leacroft, Charing-Cross, London: Mr. Fletcher, at Oxford; Messrs. Merrills, at Cambridge; and all the neighbouring Booksellers.

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MARK, CHAP. 14, Part of VERSE 7.

FOR YE HAVE THE POOR ALWAYS WITH YOU.

IT has pleaſed God to maintain the ſame variety amongſt his rational creatures, as is obſervable in every other part of his creation. Of Plants and Animals, ſome are of a ſuperior ſpecies, and more diſtinguiſhed texture; whilſt others are formed of coarſer and more ordinary materials. Even amongſt thoſe magnificent wonders of his power and wiſdom the celeſtial luminaries, infinite is the regulated ſubordination, and various are the purpoſes they anſwer.

From this general ſcheme of things angels and men are not exempt. As far as any ideas can juſtifiably be formed of the higheſt order of reaſonable beings, the ſame diſtinction takes place amongſt them. Some are honoured with a nearer approach, and more intimate reſort to the Majeſty of the ſupreme ruler of

heaven and earth. For by the terms of Cherubim and Seraphim we learn, that there is a gradation of employment, entruſted to their reſpective endowments and degrees of excellence. And it is moſt evident, that the human race differs as well in internal and mental endowments, as in exterior bleſſings and advantages.

But the moſt general diſcrimination which prevails in human ſociety; and by which in civilized ſtates we are moſt ſtrongly and obviouſly ſeparated, and diſtinguiſhed; is that of rich and poor. Thoſe, I mean, who from various accidents and cauſes have a larger ſhare of the poſſeſſions and comforts of this temporary life; than others, who have ſcarce a competency to anſwer their neceſſary demands.

To a philoſophic and religious mind contemplating this variegated ſyſtem, the wiſdom and the power that formed and faſhioned it, are diſplayed in the brighteſt colours. For as the ſurface of the globe by even uniformity would loſe the landſcape which enriches it; and the many advantages which reſult from its mountains and receſſes: ſo likewiſe would its rational inhabitants be deprived of that intereſting moral harmony, which is the reſult of this diſparity amongſt them, under an equal diſtribution. And by that change, many eminent virtues, pleaſing du-

ties

ties. and powerful incentives to uſeful arts and induſtry would vaniſh from ſociety.

But it muſt be confeſſed, in the eye of humanity, this diſtinction ſeems too ſtrongly marked in many inſtances. Is manifeſtly carried to a much wider ſeparation between man and man, than is reconcileable to the impartial goodneſs which directed the firſt ſcheme of creation. Reaſon and revelation teach us that the principle of that, was the communication of univerſal happineſs, adapted to particular circumſtances. And therefore, tho' it was by no means inconſiſtent with this gracious plan, that ſome diverſity in communicated bliſs ſhould prevail; yet is it improbable that the bulk of mankind ſhould be predeſtined to inceſſant toil and want; or to groan under oppreſſive infirmities and grief: whilſt the more favoured few, indifferent to their ſufferings, ſhould riot in eaſe and in abundance. This could never be the deſign. Would it not be blaſphemous, to lay ſo railing an accuſation againſt that moſt perfect being, whom every day's experience proves, to be the father of mercies, and God of all conſolation? It was undoubtedly his pleaſure that ſubordination and degrees of felicity ſhould take place amongſt us. But nevertheleſs it was intended, that competence ſhould extend to all; and that miſery and pain ſhould be the lot of none.

But God is gracious, and man perverſe. It appears from melancholy evidence, that the draught which multitudes are made to drink of, flows from ſorrow's cup. And that not only the poor man is conſtantly bebefore us, but alſo the deſtitute and wretched. From revelation only is the juſt ſolution of this religious prooblem to be ſought for. And in her ſacred volume of intereſting truths we read; that to the benevolent Author of the univerſe no ſuch deformity can be imputed. But to an early diſobedience and corrupted judgment of our firſt parents. Which debaſed our conſtitution. Loſt us the delights and innocent gratifications of paradiſe. And caſt us forth into a world of toil, temptation, and mortality.

Such is the real explanation of this difficulty; and eaſy is it with this aſſiſtance, to reconcile the preſent general condition of mankind, to the amiable attributes of God. And the aſſertion of my text appears as intelligible as it is incontrovertible, that "the "poor is always with us." We will wave then further diſquiſition on the cauſe of this effect; and advert to the leſſons to be derived from it. Of theſe I ſhall ſelect ſuch as beſt apply to the benevolent commiſſion aſſigned to me this day. Such as point out to each diviſion, into which it ranks us, its proper and reſpective duties. To the poor it offers matter worthy of frequent recollection. To the rich the words imply an exhortation to works of love and

mercy.

mercy. And to both it will appear, that the charitable foundation which in this county has long ſolicited the ſupport it merits, is fitly adapted to the declaration of my text; an engaging incitement of the gratitude of the former; and a proper object of the tender ſenſibity of the latter.

Since then the poor is ſo conſtant and material a portion of ſociety, it is neceſſary for them carefully to conſider the duties of their ſtation; and certainly their intereſt to diſcharge them. Patience, induſtry, and piety conſtitute their leading maxims. Such as are eſſential to them in the field, and in the cottage; and are their only ſecurity for preſent or future comfort.

The arguments for *patience* are various, and forcible, and obvious. It ſhould never be forgotten that the lot of every one is caſt into the lap of a wiſe and good providence; and the whole diſpoſal of it in his almighty hand. That our firſt parents by tranſgreſſion entailed the heavieſt portion of our preſent difficulties upon their poſterity. And therefore "as the fathers "have eaten ſour grapes, the children's teeth are ſet "on edge." To repine then at the neceſſary conſequence of ſelf-derived miſchief, is unjuſtifiable. And to murmur againſt the authority which warned us of our danger; and which was ſlighted, and offended:

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is profane. Acquieſcence, and the humbleſt ſelf-abaſement are the proper diſpoſitions of mind in ſuch circumſtances, where the penalty inflicted is the conſequence of demerit; not the reſult of arbitrary will.

Beſides, it is vain and hurtful to deſpond. So far from lightening the preſſure of the burden, or qualifying the ills we feel; it aggravates each evil that aſſaults us; debilitates the requiſite exertion againſt their power; and doubles the calamity, by miſleading the judgment of the ſufferer; and renders him more vulnerable.

Diſcontent is alſo the parent of envy. And from her pernicious impreſſions, vices of the blackeſt die too often take their birth. From contemplating another's better circumſtances with this ſpirit of malicious rivalry, ariſes an inclination to reduce them to a nearer level with themſelves. Of altering their condition in ſome reſpect or other for the worſe. Nay of depriving them of any portion of their property without ſcruple of the means; provided an appetite is gratifyed, or a ſudden emergency is anſwered by it. The frequent ſad experience of ſuch deluſion, blackens the heinous offences of our modern refinements in vice. And daily ſweeps from the community thoſe tranſgreſſors of our laws; who are the reproach and nuiſance of this happy country.

God

God is certainly no reſpecter of perſons; becauſe he is equally the father of all his creatures. Is poverty then any reproach to a man, that he ſhould "charge God fooliſhly," or bluſh on its account; eſpecially if his portion from the cradle? Is it intolerable, that he muſt ſink under its preſſure, or free himſelf from it at any hazard? Or is our right to chuſe our own condition ſo decided, that we may juſtifiably reproach our almighty ruler; and revenge ourſelves upon the world at large? On the contrary, has not the loweſt of us more than he could claim? Sinful as we are! earth and duſt! have we not abilities of body and mind equal to our natural wants? Exiſtence itſelf is a bleſſing. The bountiful earth, if cultivated, abounds in nouriſhment. By laws divine and human, ample proviſion is made for ſo tranſitory a ſcene of things. And the ſame power which placed us in it, will carry us through it ſafely, if our own beſt endeavours are exerted.

The valuable ſecret therefore for the poor man's comfort; his Alchemy for converting what he touches into current ore, is honeſt, frugal, ſober *induſtry*. This will equal his condition to the moſt proſperous in every eſſential article; and frequently render it ſuperior. Health is probably his portion. Early hours, free air, chearful ſpirits, active limbs, ſecure him many advantages. His laborious life uſually entitles

entitles him to theſe. His wants are few. And his morſel thus earned by the ſweat of his brows, and in ways adapted to his humble lot; is infinitely ſweeter and more nutritious, than where delicacies cloy the appetite, and intemperance miſuſes them. How ſtrange is it then that ſo few ſhould diſcover this! or that ſo large a number ſhould prefer a life of plundering and begging, to a creditable, beneficial, honeſt occupation!

If this induſtrious and patient character, engrafts into his diſpoſition *devout* and *pious* principles; and "tho' poor, (as Agur prayed) he ſteal not, nor take "the name of God in vain," if his faith in his Saviour's miſſion and merits, and gratitude and obedience to God and Chriſt animate and influence his conduct; how excellent, how reſpectable a member of ſociety does he become? And how much better is it to rank amongſt the companions of Lazarus; ſo bleſt an inmate of Abraham's boſom; than to ſtand enrolled in the pompous genealogies of thoſe ſons of Dives, who were vicious and unfeeling?

Since then poverty is the portion of ſo large a number of our ſpecies; it muſt be the duty of the wealthy to conſider their numbers and importance. And as much as poſſible to ſtrive to leſſen the extraordinary hardſhips of their ſituation. They are bound

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to it as an offering of thankſgiving to their maker for the larger bounty beſtowed on them. The power and affluence by which they are diſtinguiſhed are incidental and diſproportionate; the particulars which conſtitute the natural band of union between the higher and lower orders of mankind, are conſtant and equal. To deſpiſe, to neglect, to injure our inferiors, is deſpiſing, neglecting and injuring our own ſpecies; partners with us in the ſame career of trial; and in the ſame hopes and fears when it is finiſhed. Every bleſſing imparted to us, whether external or internal, is deſigned for general benefit, not for ſelfiſh appropriation. When benevolence and goſpel charity apply them to the purpoſes intended, they ornament the proprietor, and appear in their due luſtre. They are talents intruſted to ſome, to be adminſtered to the wants of others. Scripture need not be cited to ſupport this doctrine. Your own good hearts, and pious recollections, will ſuggeſt the paſſages.

But alſo, what have we that can properly be called our own? A few years; a few hours at once diveſt us of thoſe things; and then, whoſe ſhall they be? To conſume them all upon ourſelves, is therefore baſe indulgence. To hoard them up, a robbery of others. It is inhumanity. It is irreligion. The order, the variety which ſtamps ſo beautiful an impreſſion on the face of nature, is injured, when the

miſer locks up his treaſure; or the voluptuous diſſipate it. A charitable temper is intended to alleviate the heavier inconveniences of that unequal diſtribution: which, (tho' complained of) if changed, would occaſion more publick miſchief than private good. Becauſe, whatever ſome may aſſert, without variety of rank and due ſubordination, no regular ſociety can ſubſiſt. To liſten to the cries of the neceſſitous; to relieve the oppreſſed; to viſit the fatherleſs and widows in their affliction; and to ſet the captive free; are pleaſing opportunities for ſoftening our diſpoſitions; imitating the example of our heavenly teacher; and of turning our hearts towards God. And to what purpoſe is it that we pride ourſelves in the diſtinction of humanity, if we are ſtrangers to the finer ſentiments which belong to it? Or how can we denominate ourſelves chriſtians, if we do not adopt the celeſtial goodneſs of Chriſt? To call him Lord, Lord, and not to ſympathize in the calamities and ſorrows of our brethren; is a profanation of the name: and a degree of unnatural indifference for which we ſhall be called to an account.

Indeed no duty to which we are invited can be eaſier or more ſoothing than generous compaſſion. To ſpare from ſuperfluity is being liberal at the cheapeſt rate. Conſiderable conveniences remain, tho' we ſhake off ſome to the relief of thoſe who are neceſſitous.

neceſſitous. But ſuppoſe by ſuch behaviour we are compelled to gratify an inordinate deſire the leſs? That the inceſſant round of levity and folly, ſenſual pleaſures, and luxurious extravagance, which faſhionably turns our heads; corrupts our hearts; and ruins our fame and fortunes; ſhould pauſe on ſuch a motive? That the ſums devoted to the gaming table, (where every generous ſentiment is abſorbed, and from whence many dreadful calamities proceed) were occaſionally to be devoted to purpoſes of charity. That ſuch wanton and covetous delights were to be taught their diſtance, when thoſe ſublimer ſatisfactions were in view. Should we be loſers? Rather would not our preſent happineſs be more certain; and by the incenſe of this wholeſome ſacrifice; ſhould we not render our future proſpects leſs clouded, and more replete with comfort?

But it is needleſs to dwell on truths ſo plain, and ſo frequently acknowledged by the liberal practice of many here. It ſeemed however to conſtitute a neceſſary part of a diſcourſe intended for a charitable purpoſe, to urge ſome arguments favourable to the general principle. And to point out the ſtrict connection that it claims with a truly chriſtian character. The declaration of my text, proceeding from one who never uttered an unmeaning word, admitted alſo of ſome uſeful comment, by which to turn our thoughts

towards the *duties* and *demands* of poverty. And both united, regularly leads us to advert to its more immediate object; the generous foundation for the relief of indigent perſons ſinking under bodily diſorders, which the benevolence of ſeveral in this county labours to eſtabliſh here.

It is not my purpoſe to enter into a deſcription of the plan. The circulated printed papers which ſet forth its circumſtances and views, may ſpare me ſuch detail. It differs in no particulars from ſimilar works of piety elſewhere. In reſpect to the protection it has met with, it has not been ſo fortunate as many; and on this I will preſume to dwell a little with an honeſt, but inoffenſive freedom.

In moſt places inſtitutions of this kind have been warmly eſpouſed as ſoon as propoſed, by the zealous contribution of the whole community they were intended to benefit. And thus came early to maturity, and decent ſplendour. The advancement of this has been gradual and confined; and too much thrown upon caſual and humble alms for an object of ſuch conſequence; and a ſituation of ſuch dignity and ſubſtance. The general voice of this county, and publick ſpirit which diſtinguiſhes it, are unanimous in wiſhing it ſucceſs. Yet an honourable ſtruggle for the credit of propoſing it; ſeems hitherto to have deprived the liſt of benefactors of ſeveral valuable

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names; and thrown ſome diſcouragement in its way. But ſurely this is a competition of too refined a ſort? Since it is as commendable to encourage a well concerted publick work, as to be the original contriver of it. The neceſſity for an infirmary in this place, and the ability to maintain it, are acknowledged. And ſome years experience has proved the comfort of it, by the liſt of patients which have been diſcharged, happy as individuals, and uſeful as members of ſociety. It is to be hoped therefore, that all partial objections will henceforward vaniſh. And that for a matter of this avowed importance, the ſubſcriptions will encreaſe. That thoſe who have ſo long withheld their bounty will make amends to themſelves and the charity by encouragement proportioned to their ſuſpence. And that others who kindly ranked amongſt its earlier advocates, will enough conſider the annual demands upon the fund, to be punctual in their payments.

The candour of thoſe worthy individuals who fall under either of theſe deſcriptions, will plead the apology of this addreſs, on ſo authorized and ſerious an opportunity. They cannot, I am perſuaded, think the moment unſeaſonable for expreſſing a ſolliciude to effectuate ſome change of their preſent opinions and practice in theſe points. It does not become me, nor is there reaſon in this inſtance to inſinuate, that to with-hold a contribution towards

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relieving the diſtreſſes of our fellow citizens on an inferior motive; or to neglect an engagement of this nature; is the effect of indifference to the ſoil from whence both birth and fortune are derived: or of a proper regard for thoſe induſtrious hands who cultivate and inhabit it. Lament, I may, that any accident or delicacy ſhould interfere to the embarraſment of an inſtitution ſo creditable and proper. In the labour of charitable love to one another, utility ſhould be the main conſideration. It is no queſtion that Hoſpitals are beneficial as ſchools for improvement in the valuable ſciences of medicine and ſurgery, as well as for the purpoſe in our view. Their variety and multiplicity evidence it to be the general ſenſe. Far then be it from the hearts of all thus perſuaded, to inquire with prejudiced preciſion who were the original propoſers of this; whether ſuch ſcheme was interfered with at ſome forgotten period; or with too ſcrupulous a ſcrutiny who laid the foundation-ſtone. The perſons are certainly worthy to live in the memories of their poorer brethren. And the ſpirit which dictated it, is as clearly a chriſtian one, and deſerves to be admitted into every boſom. Inſtead therefore of endeavouring to contract its views, or by backwardneſs in giving it ſupport to hazard its exiſtence; the fitter competition would be, who ſhall beſt protect it.

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The credit of this reſpectable portion of the Kingdom ſeems, in ſome degree, at ſtake on this occaſion. Thoſe that border on it, are many of them provided with theſe houſes of mercy upon an entenſive and exemplary plan. Is it poſſible then, that this ſpot, whoſe gentry have ſtood forth amongſt the foremoſt in defence of the invaluable priviledges of this land of liberty, ſhould be the laſt to compaſſionate the diſtreſſes of its inhabitants? Courage and humanity are aſſociates in the ſame boſom. And thoſe hearts which beat with ardour to ſhield their country in the hour of publick danger, will naturally glow with ſympathizing pity on calls of private difficulties. It cannot be objected, that like Judas, (to whom my text replyed) thoſe who manage the revenues, have any ſiniſter views to gratify. Their anxiety, trouble, and attendance can only be repaid them by that delightful ſelf-complacency which is ever the companion of benevolence; and their Redeemer's love. Neither can it be denied that the medical department is ſupplied with every requiſite of humanity and ſkill.

An intereſting period of this undertaking now ſolicits extraordinary attention. In its infant ſtate prudence required that it ſhould be confined within narrow limits. And therefore ſuch accommodations were provided, as circumſtances then allowed. As

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a courſe of years has proved its merit, and contributions have encreaſed; the managers have ventured to purchaſe a more convenient ſituation. And to erect a building better calculated for the reception of patients. It is their reaſonable hope, that this neceſſary improvement ſhall not be fruſtrated for want of due encouragement. The expence incurred by it, has conſiderably ſunk the capital; tho' the whole has been conducted with the utmoſt œconomy and fidelity. Without a generous contribution on ſuch opportunities as the preſent; or a regular ſtated ſubſcription; the building may become a heap of uſeleſs ruins; and the unhappy patients left to bemoan their grievous loſs and diſappointment.

Let it then be preſumed that things will wear a better aſpect. To bear one another's burdens is a moſt expreſſive method of fulfilling the law of Chriſt. And what burden can more require aſſiſtance than that of ſickneſs fallen on penurious induſtry? Such objects as theſe are indeed perpetually with us; and preſent themſelves as powerful mementos of that love to God and to our neighbour, which are the comprehenſive precepts of our chriſtian duty.

It is a main attention of our laws, to preſerve competence and domeſtick ſecurity within the poor man's walls: and various proviſions are contrived to keep

keep him in ſobriety and uſeful labour, But as it is impoſſible for every contingency to come under the controul of general regulations, the afflictions that befall him when hurt or ſick, muſt be conſigned to the charitable notice of individuals. Under theſe circumſtances, peculiar quiet; careful nurſing; medical applications; are eſſential to his recovery, or at leaſt to his relief. And he has neither means nor ability when labour ſtops, and within his narrow dwelling, to provide himſelf with any of them. In aggravation of this diſtreſs, perhaps a wife and numerous family, dependants on his health, and painful and embarraſſing partakers of his ſorrow, lie heavy incumbrances upon his mind. Which way muſt he now apply for comfort? The pittance from his pariſh cheſt is ſometimes wrung with difficulty from unfeeling officers; and is always ſadly inadequate to the caſe. The officious ſedulity of neighbours, or knaviſh arts of empiricks, are often equally detrimental to the wretched object. The only effectual method therefore is, to remove him from this ſcene of miſery and miſchief, to ſuch ſhelter as is our preſent aim to recommend. Where not only the reverſe of all theſe ſtated particulars prevails; but alſo where his thoughts are turned to thoſe religious conſolations which ſmooth the bed of ſickneſs. Perhaps reſtore him to ſociety ſound in mind as well as body.

Or qualify him to meet his fate with due reſignation and compoſure.

The metropolis of this nation has expreſſed the higheſt ſenſibility of this melancholy ſituation. And few can vie with it in the number, magnificence, and conduct of receptacles deſigned to obviate it in every ſhape. The follies and vices with which it annually teems, are diſſeminated with wondrous ſollicitude to the obſcureſt and moſt diſtant corners. It is ſurely worthy of equal zeal at leaſt, to catch at the illumination of any ray of wiſdom reflected from it. And in this particular there can be no deluſion. At preſent you ſtand almoſt ſingle in the want of a complete eſtabliſhment of a county infirmary. In other reſpects conſiderable and obvious are your general improvements. Skilful agriculture; elegant refinements in the arts of ſocial life; and convenient intercourſe from one part of this province to another; commendably mark the ſenſe and opulence of its gentry. Nothing remains but to convince the humbler and laborious claſs of its inhabitants by this additional token, that their intereſts and comforts are not forgotten. For thus to remember that "the poor is always "with us," is an advantage in a *civil*, a *moral*, and a *religious* light. In a *civil* one, as an incitement to their gratitude and chearful acquieſcence in their appointed lot. In a *moral* ſenſe; as calling forth the exerciſe of

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the ſocial virtues; and ſuggeſting to the different orders of mankind the ſentiments and demeanour ſuited to their reſpective ſituations. And in a *religious* view; as forcibly expreſſing that love of our neighbour, which is *one* great pillar of the chriſtian law; at the ſame time that it is no inconſiderable teſt of our love to God; which is the *other*. For ſuch is the condeſcenſion of our Saviour, that offerings of this nature to our poorer brethren, are graciouſly accepted by him as beſtowed upon himſelf.

the social virtues; and suggesting to the different orders of mankind the sentiments and demeanour suited to their respective situations. And in a religious view; as forcibly expressing that love of our neighbour, which is one great pillar of the christian law; at the same time that it is no inconsiderable test of our love to God; which is the foundation of our Saviour, that offerings of this nature to our poorer brethren, are graciously accepted by him as bestowed upon himself.

The State of the COUNTY-HOSPITAL at LINCOLN.

OFFICERS.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE of ANCASTER, PRESIDENT.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Right Hon. Earl of Exeter,
Right Hon. Earl of Briſtol,
Right Hon. Lord Brownlow Bertie,
Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of Lincoln,
Hon. and Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of St. David's,
Right Hon. Lord Arundel,
Right Hon. Lord Brownlow,
Sir Sampſon Gideon, Bart.
Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Bart.
Charles Anderſon Pelham, Eſq;

Charles White, Eſq; TREASURER.

Thomas Mainwaring, Eſq; } AUDITORS.
John Brown, Eſq;

PHYSICIANS.
Robert Petrie, M. D.
Benjamin Charleſworth, M. D.
Edmund Laycock, M. D.

Mr. Parnel, Mr. Parnel, Jun. Mr. Lely, } SURGEONS.
Mr. Swan, Mr. Henry Swan, Jun.

Mr. Alderman Broxholm Brown, } SUPERINTENDING
Mr. Alderman Dell, } APOTHECARIES.

Mr. MATHER, HOUSE-APOTHECARY. — Mr. FORSTER, SECRETARY. — Mrs. BEVERLEY, MATRON.

The following ORDERS

Are publiſhed for the more immediate Information of ſuch as recommend Patients to the Hoſpital.

THAT no Woman big with Child; no Child under ſix Years of Age, (except in extraordinary Caſes, as Fractures, or where cutting for the Stone or any other Operation is required) no Perſons diſordered in their Senſes; ſuſpected to have the Small-Pox, Venereal Diſeaſe, Itch, or other infectious Diſtempers; apprehended to be in a dying Condition, or incurable, be admitted as In-patients, or, if inadvertently admitted, be ſuffered to continue.

II. THAT perſons who recommend Patients from diſtant places, be deſired to ſend their Caſes drawn up by ſome Phyſician, Surgeon, or Apothecary; to which an Anſwer ſhall be returned, whether and when they ſhall be admitted; but that the Board be ſtill at liberty to reject ſuch Patients, if their Caſes appear to have been miſrepreſented.

III. THAT when there ſhall be want of Room in the Hoſpital for the Admiſſion of all duly recommended and qualified to be In-patients; thoſe ſhall be firſt received whoſe Caſes will admit of the leaſt Delay. In Caſes of equal Exigency, the Preference ſhall be given; *Firſt*, to thoſe who live at the greateſt Diſtance; *Secondly*, to thoſe recommended by ſuch Subſcribers and Benefactors as have not recommended any In-patients within the Year; and *Thirdly*, to thoſe recommended by the largeſt Contributors.

IV. THAT Patients duly recommended and qualified who cannot be admitted for want of Room in the Hoſpital, be entered in the Books as In-patients, and received into the Houſe preferably to any others in equal Neceſſity, upon the firſt Vacancies; and in the mean Time be treated as Out-patients.

V. THAT no In-patient ſhall be admitted till Fifteen Shillings be depoſited in the hands of the Treaſurer or his Deputies, to defray the Expences of Burial, in Caſe of Death; which ſhall be repaid, in Caſe of Diſcharge, deducting the Expences of Removal.

VI. THAT Patients be admitted and diſcharged every Monday by the Weekly Board, between the Hours of Eleven and One; and that the Candidates for Admiſſion do attend before the hour of Eleven.

VII. THAT a Benefactor of 20*l.* at one Time, be a Governor for Life; and an Annual Subſcriber of Two Guineas be a Governor during Payment.

VIII. THAT an Annual Subſcriber of one Guinea, ſhall have a Right to recommend in the Year, one In-patient and two Out-patients; a Subſcriber of two Guineas, two In-patients and four Out-patients; and ſo in Proportion: That a Benefactor of 10*l.* at one time, ſhall have an equal Right with a Subſcriber of one Guinea; a Benefactor of 20*l.* with a Subſcriber of two Guineas; and ſo in Proportion.

IX. THAT the Head, or other Officer, for the Time being, of any Townſhip, Body Corporate, or Society, ſubſcribing to the Hoſpital, have the ſame Right of recommending Patients with a Subſcriber of equal Value.

X. THAT no Subſcriber's Recommendation be accepted, while his Subſcription is in Arrear more than three Months.

XI. THE Contributors are deſired to pay their Subſcriptions, at the Beginning of their reſpective Years, to Meſſ. *Croft*, and *Backwell*, Bankers, in *Pall Mall, London: Charles White*, Eſq; Treaſurer, at *Lincoln:* or to the Committee that ſits every Monday Morning, at the Hoſpital from Eleven to One.

Mr. *Forſter*, the Secretary, will attend all Viſitations, and take in Subſcriptions and receive Money, for the Convenience of thoſe who live at a Diſtance.

Form of a Recommendatory Letter.

GENTLEMEN,

I recommend to your Examination of the Townſhip of whom I believe to be a real Object of Charity, and deſire may be admitted an In- (or Out-) Patient of the Hoſpital, if duly qualified.

To the Weekly Governors of the County Hoſpital at Lincoln.

Form of a Letter to be ſent to Subſcribers who are in Arrears.

SIR,

In compliance with the Rules of this Society, I am to acquaint you that it appears by the Secretary's Book, that your Subſcription of *per Ann.* payable laſt has not yet been received.

It is therefore the requeſt of the Board, that you will be pleaſed to pay it to and excuſe this Application, as it is the conſtant Uſage of other Hoſpitals in the like Caſe.

SECRETARY.

Such as chuſe to be Benefactors by their laſt Will, have the following Form of a Legacy recommended to them.

Item. *I give and bequeath unto* A. B. *and* C. D. *the Sum of upon Truſt, and to the Intent that they, or one of them, do pay the ſame to the Treaſurer, for the Time being, of a Society who call themſelves the Governors of the* County-Hoſpital *at* LINCOLN: *which ſaid Sum of I will and deſire may be paid out of my Perſonal Eſtate, and applied towards carrying on the charitable Deſigns of the ſaid Society.*

N. B. Complaints having been made of a great want of LINEN RAGS, great Quantities of which are conſtantly uſed; they will therefore always be an acceptable Preſent.

PARTICULARS relating to the PATIENTS.

Remaining from laſt Year,	In-patients	20	
	Out-patients	12	
Admitted from September 24th, 1776, to September 24th, 1777.			
	In-patients,	88	
	Out-patients,	67	
	Total	187	
Diſcharged	Cured,	115	
	Much Relieved,	37	
	At their own Requeſt,	6	
	For Irregularity,	4	
Dead,		3	
Remaining on the Books,	In-patients,	16	
	Out-patients,	6	
	Total	187	

Number of Patients admitted from the firſt Eſtabliſhment, November 13th, 1769, to September 24th, 1777.

	In-patients,	647	
	Out-patients,	503	
	Total	1150	
Diſcharged	Cured	720	
	Relieved	272	
	At their own Requeſt,	39	
	For Irregularity, &c.	63	
Dead,		34	
Remaining on the Books,	In-patients,	16	
	Out-patients,	6	
	Total	1150	

ABSTRACT of the ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.

CHARGE.	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Balance of the laſt Account	772	3	0½
Arrears of Benefactions, Midſummer, 1776	50	0	0
Arrears of Subſcriptions, Midſummer, 1776	208	7	0
Benefactions from Midſum. 1776, to Midſum. 1777,	252	1	6
Subſcriptions from Midſum. 1776, to Midſum. 1777,	523	9	0
A Year and 24 Days Intereſt on 1000*l.* and a Year's Intereſt on 25*l.*	43	12	7
Produce by Sale of 500*l.* New Annuities,	401	17	6
By a Part of the principal Sum of 1000*l.* on private Security, paid in	200	0	0
Collection at Gainſborough, 14*l.* 11*s.* at Kettlethorpe, 12*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.*¼	26	13	2¼
Collection at a Charitable Aſſembly	16	18	6
Poor Boxes, 1*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*½ Subſiſtence of Soldiers 2*l.* 9*s.*	3	19	10½
	2499	2	2¾
	1908	7	1
	590	15	1¼

DISCHARGE.	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Arrears of Benefactions, due Midſummer, 1777	50	0	0
Arrears of Subſcriptions, due Midſummer, 1777	375	8	0
Deduction to be made for a Subſcription over-charged by Miſtake,	3	10	0
Butcher's Bills from Michaelmas 1776, to Mich. 1777,	54	7	10½
Baker's Ditto,	62	13	8
Brewer's Ditto	30	2	7
Grocer's Ditto	46	6	9½
Coal Merchant's Ditto	56	5	9
Furniture, Houſe Rent, Repairs and Alterations, ditto	62	6	5
Inſtruments, Drugs and Medicines, ditto,	31	7	8
Books, Printing, Advertiſements and Law Charges, do.	7	10	0
Salaries and Wages, Ditto	79	2	2½
Sundries, Ditto	59	9	2½
Audited Bills paid for the New Building	989	16	10½
	1908	7	1

	Benefactions prior to this Account.			Subscriptions prior to this Account discontinued.			Benefactions betwixt Midsummer 1776 & 77, included in this Account.			Subscriptions betwixt Midsummer 1776 & 77, included in this Account.			Benefactions subsequent to this Account.			Subscriptions subsequent to this Account		
	l.	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Late John Hopkinſon, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late John Hudſon Eſq;	25	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Hurton,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. George Hutton,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Thomas Jenkinſon, Eſq;	100	0	0	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Thomas Jervis,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alan Johnſon, Eſq;	21	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lewis Jones, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
John Key, Eſq;	21	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
John Key, Eſq; Fulford, Yorkſhire,	100	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
John King, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Knight,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of Lincoln,	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	10	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Lamb,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bennet Langton, Eſq;	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Samuel Langton, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Langton,	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miſs Langton,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dr. Laycock,	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—
Mr. Lely,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Robert Lely,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corporation of Lincoln,	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Lyon,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lady Robert Manners,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Dr. Madan,	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thomas Mainwaring, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Marſhall,	21	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Maſham,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late William Middlemore, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
William Burrel Maſſingberd, Eſq;	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
William Meuſe Maſſingberd, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charles Maſſingberd, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Meaſures,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Rev. Mr. Midgley,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lawrence Monk, Eſq;	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Chriſtopher Nevile, Eſq;	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chriſtopher Nevile, Eſq;	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Nevile,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Jane Nevile,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Michael Newton, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Nocton,	50	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Edward Parker, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charles Anderſon Pelham, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Bernard Perney, Loughborough Houſe, Rector of North and South Hickham,	100	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Philips,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Pilkington,	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Col. Pownall,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Pugh,	20	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Counteſs Dowager of Rothes,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Samuel Reynardſon, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Dr. Richardſon,	52	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Dudley Rocket,	—	—	—	4	4	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miſs Rolt,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thomas Scrope, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coningſby Sibthorpe, Eſq;	50	0	0	10	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
John Short, Eſq;	21	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Rev. Mr. Smith,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Dr. Stinton. Chancellor of Lincoln,	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Stinton,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Nevile Stow,	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Swan, for a perſon unknown,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Taylor,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Sir John Thorold,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Toller,	52	10	0	10	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Town,	10	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
George Foſter Tuffnell, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Twentyman,	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Mrs. Tyrwhit,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Robert Vyner, Eſq;	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lord Willoughby de Broke,	20	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Joſeph Walls, Eſq;	20	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Henry Lomax Walſh, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Ward,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Ward, for a perſon unknown,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
William Welby, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	10	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Wetherall,	52	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charles White, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. White,	50	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. White, Canwick,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. White, Bucknall,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Whitcombe,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late John Wilberſoſs, Eſq;	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Wilberſoſs,	10	10	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Dr. Cecil Willis,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rev. Mr. Richard Willis,	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Late Edward Wills, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mrs. Wingfield,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Willoughby Wood, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Iſaac Wood,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. William Wood,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Woodward,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mr. Clement Wrather,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	0
Richard Wynne, Eſq;	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hon. and Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of St. David's	21	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miſs Penelope York,	20	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pariſh of Auborn,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bardney,	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Branſton,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0
Brigg,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Donnington,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haxey,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heighington,	—	—	—	3	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holton Holgate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkſtead,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navenby,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Netrleham,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
St. Peter at Arches, Lincoln,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waddington,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waſhingborough,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wellingore,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
By unknown Perſons, as appears in laſt Account	92	10	6	2	2	0	252	1	6	533	9	0	—	—	—	—	—	—